Legislation for sexual harassment at work place

3342. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a legislation to address sexual harassment at work place has been formulated, on the basis of the Visakha judgement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) A draft Bill for "Protection of Women Against Sexual Harassment" is under consideration.

(b) Constitution of Local Complaint Committees at district and block levels are envisaged under the proposed Bill for redressal of sexual harassment at work place.

(c) Does not arise.

Mortality of girls

3343. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as per report brought out by NGO-Save the Children, survival gap is widening in the country between the ages of one and five, for every five boys who die, eight girls die;

(b) whether the report cites less money spent on girls' health compared with boys, as one of the major reasons for the survival gap;

(c) whether in Punjab, the expenditure on medical care in the first two years after birth for boys is 2.3 times higher than that for girls;

(d) whether this is a telling comment on the deep-rooted gender bias in our society; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (e) As informed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the report brought out by the NGO-Save the Children, is not an accepted report as it has not been brought in consultation with the Government of India. Government of India, therefore, does not recognize the report.

As per the National Family Health Survey 3, 2005-06, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, under five mortality rate is 69.7 per thousand live births for males and 79.2 per thousand live births for females.

To reduce gender bias, Government is implementing the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation And Prevention of Misues) Act, 1994 to provide for the regulation of the use of pre-natal diagnostic techniques.

Expenditure on medical care under Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme is made for children up to the age of five years. Gender-wise expenditure is not available for RCH.

Working women's hostels

3344. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the usual norms for sanctioning financial assistance for construction of working women's hostels and whether these norms have been followed in Rajasthan, a backward region;

(b) the status of development of hostel facilities for working women in Rajasthan;

(c) the action plan of Government to speed up construction of such hostels at a faster rate, to meet the increasing requirement of working women in that State; and

(d) whether any proposal from that State, for construction of working women's hostel, is pending consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Proposals fulfilling the norms of the Scheme, duly recommended by the State Government are considered in the Project Sanctioning Committee of the Ministry of Women and Child Development. Detailed guidelines and the norms under which projects are considered and the list of completed hostels sanctioned under the Scheme in the State of Rajasthan are available on the Ministry's website www.wcd.nic.in.

(c) The Scheme of assistance for construction/expansion of hostel building for working women with a day care centre for children is under revision to invite more and more proposals under the scheme.

(d) Only one proposal from Hari Om Shikshan Samiti. Bhawani Mandi, Jhalawad, Rajasthan has been received. The deficiencies noticed in the proposal has been communicated to State Government and the applicant organization.

Complaints to NCW

†3345. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.